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APR 16 2003

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Andrew C. Gilbert et al :
Application No. 09/981,565 : DECISION GRANTING PETITION
Filed: October 17, 2001 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(f)
Attorney Docket No. CF-040 :

This is a decision on the petition, filed April 9, 2003, to revive the instant nonprovisional application under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(f).

The petition is GRANTED.

Petitioner states that the instant nonprovisional application is the subject of an application filed in a foreign country on March 21, 2002. However, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office was unintentionally not notified of this filing within 45 days subsequent to the filing of the subject application in a foreign country.

In view of the above, this application became abandoned pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c) for failure to timely notify the Office of the filing of an application in a foreign country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing.

A petition under 37 CFR 1.137(f) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reply which is met by the notification of such filing in a foreign country or under a multinational treaty;
- (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date of the reply until the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional.

The instant petition has been found in compliance with 37 CFR 1.137(f). However, while the statement of unintentional delay does not comply with the rule, the statement presented will be construed as meaning that "the entire delay in filing the required reply [Notice to Rescind Previous Nonpublication Request Under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(ii)] until the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional." Accordingly, the failure to timely notify the Office of a foreign or international filing within 45 days as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (703) 305-8680.

This application is being forwarded to Technology Center Art Unit 2122 for examination in due course.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Hicks".

Frances Hicks
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy